



c.44.6: Girton Scrapbook by Mike Petty

1897 03 22

Education in rural districts – Girton example, p3

1898 01 07

Girton church restoration, p3

1898 07 09

Girton jubilee, p3

1899 01 14

Sir - I should like to know how it is the children who come over a mile to Girton school cannot be provided with a little water to drink, as there is a well and a pump not 50 yards from the school doors. Some of the cottagers compare its water to Monkey Brand soap - it is not fit to wash clothes. If you put it in a copper and boil it there is a scum like yeast. It is no use letting the water be consumed and disease spread – Neptune

1899 01 19

Girton water, p3

1899 01 23

Sir - there are many schools that have no water supply at all on their own premises, where the children have to depend on "kind and motherly" neighbours who are good enough to attend to the children's wants in this respect. I do not know how many children attend Girton school but can only feel amazed at the task of the kind neighbour who was equal to the work of filtering and supplying the thirsty little throats of the village school children during such a drought as we experienced in 1898. She is undoubtedly well worthy of an honourable position in the annals of Girton - Rusticus

1899 01 25

Sir - your correspondent appears to forget that where there is a village school there is generally a village. The children obtain at home most of the water they drink. In the dinner hour and in the intervals in the midst of morning and afternoon school, the thirsty little ones can, as a rule, run to their parents' house for what they require. There is ample supply always ready for the little scholars from a distance, who eat their dinners on school premises, and at other times no really thirsty child is sent away empty. It should be remembered that the hottest weather generally occurs in the harvest holidays. During the time I have been a manager of the school at Girton, I have never had a complaint about the water supply from child, or parent or teacher. It is unfortunately true that many children come to our school in a very dirty condition - J D Lawrence

1899 01 27

Girton water supply, p3

1899 01 31

Girton School, p2

1899 03 07

At a meeting at Girton for electing parish councillors the schoolmaster raised the question of the parish pump and remarked that the state of affairs with regard to the water supply was disgraceful, more than one-third of the houses having either no water supply or water unfit to drink and as the council had taken no steps to remedy the matter they were guilty. Cries of "Puppy soup", "Cesspool drainings" etc were frequently heard

1899 03 08

Girton & water, p3

1899 03 16

Girton water supply, p3

1900

1901 03 28

Girton water supply, p3

1901 08 05

Suggestions that the model cottage is not so comfortable as the old-fashioned thatched dwellings must not be accepted without some qualification. Surely nobody will contend that the thatched cottage, with a low roof and a ladder for a staircase, is more comfortable than the brick cottage. Very few have inspected the model cottage on Mr Crisp's estate at Girton or they would not have committed themselves to such an unfortunate pronouncement. It is nothing short of a grave scandal that such large centres as Cottenham, Swavesey and Soham are in danger in the summer of suffering from a short water supply.

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1901 10 05

Girton stud dispute, p4

1902 07 05

Girton water, p3 *

1902 10 11

The villagers of Girton hope to conclude their celebration of the Coronation in November. The commemorative festivities have been taking place by instalments. Two celebrations are now things of the past. It is singular that neither of them coincided with the ceremony the memory of which they were meant to perpetuate. On the original date a tea was held but subsequently no time could be spared for anything less serious than the harvest. Wet weather accounts for the third postponement

until “the Fifth” when the villagers will see a fireworks display and then at last Girton’s Coronation festivities will be over

1910

1910 08 12

A well-known travelling fishmonger from Cambridge, when watering his horse in a pond near Conington church, got stuck in the mud – at least his horse and cart did – and the services of men with ropes and a tumbrel cart were needed before they could be extricated. A quoits handicap played between members of Barton village club during the last few weeks was won by F. Pratt with C. Trundle and T. Disbrey runners up. At Girton the Rector presented watches to schoolchildren Gladys Nightingale and Victor Watson for nine years’ perfect attendance 10 08 12

1911 04 07

Girton Village Institute is designed to promote the religious, intellectual and social welfare of villagers. An evening class for men of the artisan and labouring classes has been established. A small library of interesting books and a billiard and bagatelle table have been provided and there will be lectures, concerts and entertainment. The Rector uses it for Sunday and Bible Classes and mothers’ meetings in the day time. Such facilities are needed if we are to keep people on the land and make life in villages more interesting. 11 04 07d

1912 02 23

About 150 Boy Scouts took part in a convoy scheme at Histon. The idea was that a Blue Force, about 40 in number, was besieged in Histon village by a Red Force of over 60 Scouts, while a Blue relief column from Cambridge, some 40 strong, divided into two parts, each with a trek-cart, endeavoured to relieve them. The relief party, under Scoutmaster Curzon, advanced via Milton but met with serious opposition at Impington. A detachment of the Red Force was sent to hold the level crossing on the Histon-Girton Road but was ambushed. After the ‘Cease Fire’ the scouts had tea at Histon Institute 12 02 23h

1912 06 07

Our little motor took us over a nice piece of tarred road towards Girton College but all too soon it ended and we were wending our way over some choice examples of the celebrated Cambridgeshire patches. Just outside Fenstanton a sudden improvement in the road surface was so marked that I looked round to see the reason, and espied the post marking the county boundary. The reason was at once apparent – I had left Cambs and was now in Hunts. But an abrupt turn to the right took us on the road to St Ives, and I began to wonder if I was back in Cambridgeshire. 12 06 07a & b

1913 02 14

County pubs closed: Cottenham Red Lion, Dry Drayton Five Bells, Girton White Horse, Harston Pemberton Arms, Over Black Horse & Sow & Pigs, Swavesey Little Rose & Willingham Black Lion
Girton cruelty to cow

1913 03 14

Licensing sessions - Over Black Horse – Frederick Webster, farmer employed a number of men who used the house; the yard was a great convenience for traffic, Sow & Pigs. Harston Pemberton Arms – people left horses when went away by train. Swavesey Little Rose. Dry Drayton Five Bells. Willingham Black Lion. Cottenham Red Lion. Girton White Horse

1913 11 14

Public houses compensation awards: Melbourn Tailors Arms, Over Sow & Pigs & Black Horse, Dry Drayton Five Bells, Gamlingay Three Horse Shoes, Elsworth Three Horse Shoes, Bourn King William IV, Girton White Horse, Cottenham Red Lion, Willingham Black Lion, Shakespeare Newmarket Rd

1914 03 27

Miss Ethel Sargent, the well-known botanist of Girton College, enjoys the distinction of being the first woman to hold the office of President of any section of the British Association. But she is refusing to pay the King's Taxes as a protest against being taxed without having a vote. Articles, including microscopic accessories and Zeiss lenses were seized and sold by auction on the Green at Girton. It is the third such sale since 1912 14 03 27b & c

1914 04 17

Girton man found hanging in burning cottage – 14 04 17a

1914 04 17

Tragedy at Girton.—A dreadful tragedy was enacted at Girton on Saturday night, when a labourer set fire to his cottage and afterwards hanged himself. On the discovery of the fire a local man showed conspicuous courage in entering the house and cutting down the body. At the time the labourer was carried from the burning cottage he was alive, but he expired a few minutes afterwards. An inquest jury on Monday returned a verdict of "Suicide during temporary insanity" on the deceased. –14 04 17

1914 08 14

Rumours of the presence of spies have been circulating during the last few days. At Warboys the telegraph wire which rings the signal bell at the station on the Somersham to Ramsey branch line was cut during the night and another partially severed. Two foreign gentlemen were seen by Mr W.J. Unwin acting in a suspicious manner at Histon. He followed them to Girton and at each of the three bridges they stopped and examined them. At Girton he phoned the police and a constable was sent out. The men were requested to go to the police station which they did without demure and after questioning were liberated at once. Meanwhile police have been issued with rifles 14 08 14 p7

1915 07 16

With the Colours. Free Lance, referring to a letter from Mr. C. K. V. Adeane, Chairman of the County Territorial Association, giving figures relating to local recruitment to the forces, says: "We get an approximate estimate of 11,000 Cambridgeshire men serving with the colours, viz, 8,197 from the County and Isle and 2,777 from the Borough. A glance at the table (quoted in the letter) shows how many parts which have not nearly come up to scratch, and where there must be hundreds of men still content to remain at home when they should be taking their places beside their fellow countrymen on the training ground or in the trenches. The parish figuring best in the percentage column is Madingley, which, with 20 out of 83, comes out with 22.4 and Girton, Pampisford, Sawston and Cheveley, all top the 21 per cent, but of these I think Sawston shows up to the best advantage, having sent 166 out of a total male population of 789. Out of a total of 18, Shingay can boast four with the colours, which gives the place a percentage of 22.2. Barton and Conington are other villages to have done exceedingly well. Ely can boast of having sent the largest actual number, 753 having gone out of a male population of 3,909, which gives the excellent percentage for a place of this size of 19.2

1916 05 17

Miss E.C. Jones, Mistress of Girton – profile – 16 05 17b

1920

1920 01 24

A large congregation assembled to witness the unveiling of the new Girton War Memorial to the memory of those who gave their lives in the cause of freedom in the Great War. It was dedicated by Bishop Price, Archdeacon of Ely and unveiled by Lieut.-Col M.C. Clayton of the Cambridgeshire Regiment.

1921 06 15

Pavement Club – 500 on King's Parade with every form of locomotion known, journey to Girton – 21 06 15b

1922 04 24

Late Constance Jones, Girton, p3

1922 12 18

Sir Horace and Lady Darwin opened the splendid new playroom built by Mr C. W. Shinkfield and the boys at the Littleton House School, Girton. This room, which has been erected in the garden, takes the form of a timbered hut. The stove, flooring, electric lights and decorating have been set up and carried out by Mr Shinkfield and the boys.

1923 06 09

Four undergraduates of Christ's College, Cambridge, were summoned for wilfully damaging a finger-post in Girton. They all pleaded guilty. P.C. Mead stated that owing to complaints with reference to the post being pulled down five times before he was instructed to watch the post. Four men came from a car and tried to pull down the finger post. They did not succeed, and went back for some tools. At about 11.30 they succeeded in getting the finger off. When they had finished witness caught the driver of the car, the other three ran away but came back later. One said, "You have done me. It was too heavy. I could not run with it, it was wood other times". They said they did not know that there had been any accidents at Girton, and that the signpost had been put up for the purpose of avoiding accidents. They were fined £2 each

1924 01 05

Two young men, who are alleged to have broken and entered Girton College and stolen a number of articles on Boxing Day appeared in court. It was stated by Supt. Allen that the men took him round the college and showed the rooms they had entered, and one of them showed him a lady's bed in which he had slept for the night, after borrowing a pair of pyjamas from the next room

1924 01 15

The inquest on a Girton man who died from lock jaw following an injury to his nose caused by walking into a tumbrel cart in the dark was held at Addenbrooke's Hospital. Witness said the cart was standing on the Green and the man ran straight into it. He was bleeding from a cut on the bridge of the nose so he took him to the district nurse who dressed the wound with iodine and lint. His sister said she got him a cup of beef tea but he could not open his mouth. Dr Lund administered anti-tetanus serum but it was too late and he died.

1924 01 26

A particularly sad story was related to the Cambridge coroner when an inquiry was held into the death of an 18 year old student at Girton College. The girl, who was stated to be fond of rock climbing, attempted to ascend the Tower of the college with the intention of seeing an owl's nest. Apparently she slipped and fell to the ground. From the injuries sustained to her legs she evidently alighted on her feet, which goes to prove that she hung on somewhere for a moment before she fell. Before she died she had said, "I so wanted to see the little owls".

1924 10 18

The Conservative candidate's meeting at Girton was marked by uproar. The rowdy element consisted chiefly of youths. About midway through Capt Briscoe's speech, Mr Thurlbourne, a prominent member of the Girton Labour Party entered the room and was greeted with great enthusiasm. He asked a number of questions but the answers were lost in the uproar

1926 05 10

Five hundred of the Civil Constabulary reserve, mostly undergraduates, left Cambridge early this morning for duty in the East End of London. An advance party of 100 went off yesterday. The journey was made by road, the procession of cars stretching for a distance of nearly a mile. In addition some are cleaning carriages at Paddington and Waterloo stations and others unloading cargo at Tilbury Docks. A large number are at dock work and engineering jobs at Hull, while a small

contingent is at Grimsby employed at the quayside. A number of Girton and Newnham girls are working as cyclist messengers in the district

1927 01 28

Chesterton RDC considered filling up the pond at Girton. Half belonged to the Wellbrooke Laundry, over which the Parish Council had rights, and half to the Charity Trustees and if the pond was filled in it was essential they should waive their rights to it. The matter was urgent because the Laundry, which abuts the pond, had extended their premises. There was a quantity of building material they were anxious to get rid of which could be used in filling up the pond.

1927 06 15

Three well-known Cambridge sportsmen who have completed their academic careers distinguished themselves by spending part of the night in the grounds of one of the women's colleges and part in another. At midnight on Saturday they climbed into Newnham, taking with them a tent which they pitched in full view and were not discovered until they were all snug in "bed", when they commenced community singing. Newnham Dons became alarmed and phoned for the police, who turned them out. They then motored to Girton, scaled a twelve-foot wall and pitched the tent. They were not discovered until the early hours of the morning when the earliest risers amongst the lady students saw the strange sight in the middle of the court.

1928 07 07

Girton burglary, p5

1928 08 15

Cambridge University has lost yet another distinguished son, by the death of Baron von Hugel, founder of the University Catholic Association. In 1883 he was appointed curator of the Museum of Archaeology, to which he had presented a unique collection of Fiji war instruments. Then commenced a period of service which will never be forgotten. He raised the money required for a new building and played a prominent part in the collection of local antiques, carrying out extensive excavations at Girton. During the War the Baron took charge of the Belgian refugees in Cambridge and received a medal.

1928 08 28

Coun Rowley spoke of the serious pollution of Histon Brook. There was a stream of black sewage matter six inches deep. From this pollution he had lost two horses and another which was about to die and he had been put to very heavy expenditure for water. If water was taken from a pump at Cottenham fed by the brook it ate through the tubes in one hour. They should apply for an injunction against Messrs Chivers resulting in the stopping of the factory. But there were a large number of cottages, a large laundry and a butcher all discharging water into the brook crude, and not filtered as at Chivers. The pollution came from up the brook at Girton as well as lower down

1928 09 24

Sir Horace Darwin, a son of Charles Darwin, died at his home, The Orchard, Huntingdon Road, Cambridge having been in failing health for some time. By his passing we have lost yet another distinguished son of inventive and scientific genius and a personality who will be much missed. A former Mayor and chairman of the Cambridge Instrument Company, he was much interested in the training of mentally deficient children and helped to establish a home for them at Girton

1930

1930 07 25

The controversy over the University Farm on Huntingdon Road was resolved when Cambridge councillors rejected proposals for a road across the land. It had never been a ring road, only a road to be planned in the event of traffic conditions demanding it. It was altogether wrong to put an arterial road in the middle of a rural area which they desired to preserve and which they hoped would never

be required. They should ensure that Grantchester and Coton were not swallowed up by Cambridge in the way that Trumpington and Girton were. 30 07 25a-c

1931 10 02

Sir - Many in Histon and Impington are perplexed as to how they will be affected by proposals to include them in Cambridge. This failure is largely due to their own neglect by not attending public meetings organised by the parish councils. The critical factor is sewerage: there are plans to build an estate at Girton but the Ministry say it must be sewered and Histon would be included to make it worthwhile. A sump near the Ballast Hole, a pipe line following the railway and sewer beds near Milton seem the answer. But how will it be paid for? – W.F. Robinson. 31 10 02f

1937 09 11

Thompson's houses sell because they are quality built, using only the best materials and stand on good sites. The 'Windsor Estate' is being rapidly completed with houses for sale from £585 to £850 (£32,500 - £45,200 today). It is in a very healthy position on one of the highest points and served by two main bus routes. The 'Thornton Estate' houses cost from £800 to £1,500 (about £83,340). Each is freehold and the price includes roads and paths, fencing, decoration and large gardens. Ralph Thompson Ltd, Fulbourn – Advert 37 09 11a

1938 09 21

Thornton estate, Huntingdon Road – finest house value in this district – 38 09 21b

1940

1940 03 01

Confirmation. Nine candidates were presented, viz., five by the Rector of Girton and four by the Rector of Cottenham at the confirmation which was held in Girton Parish Church by Bishop Price on Thursday week. Tea was provided after the service for the candidates' and their friends in the Village Hall.

1942 03 16

Frida Stewart of Girton escapes German internment camp in France by crawling through hole in barbed wire – 42 03 16

1942 07 17

Youngest Inspector. At the age of 36 Leonard Arthur Unwin becomes the youngest inspector in the Cambridgeshire County Constabulary. The promotion took place as from the first of this month. Inspector Unwin joined the force in 1927, and was given the rank of sergeant in 1938. He has been stationed at Melbourn, Bourn, Girton and Madingley and is at present out at Newmarket. He is one of the most earnest supporters of sporting activities in the Force, and is a member of the cricket eleven. He is secretary of the recreation club.

1943 03 12

Thornton estate, Girton, cesspool problems – 43 03 12

1943 05 07

Three Little Sisters. By picking and selling wild flowers in the village (Girton), three little sisters, Barbara, Hilda and Lily Seymour, have forwarded the sum of £1 10s. to the British Red Cross Agriculture Fund. 43 05 07

1944 09 08

Girton Golden Wedding. — Mr. and Mrs. Harry Sadler, of 70 High Street, Girton, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on Monday. They were married on September 4, 1894, at Saxmundham Parish Church and for the past 35 years have lived in Girton. On Monday last a reception was held in

the Village Institute to mark the occasion and approximately 150 guests were entertained. Mr Sadler will be well remembered by members of the old 11th Battalion, Suffolk Regiment, in which he held the rank of C.S.M. having 25½ years of service to his credit. 44 09 08

1945 12 17

Girton first 25 demobbed soldiers return – 45 12 17a

1946 04 17

Thornton Estate litigation over refusal permission for further houses on grounds that drainage proposals unsatisfactory – 46 04 17

1946 06 27

Thornton Estate drainage litigation to continue – 46 06 27

1947 03 05

Girton refuse borough expansion, p4

1948 04 28

To perpetuate the memory of a great student of natural history, Miss Alice Hibbert-Ware, whose influence during the thirteen years she lived at Girton played an important part in the life of the village, a memorial garden was opened there. Widely known as a teacher, lecturer, writer, research worker and trainer of teachers in natural history, Miss Hibbert-Ware was also praised by speakers for the enthusiasm and wise counsel which she exercised in all affairs of the village in which she participated. Girton Parish Council has undertaken to maintain the garden so that it may for all time be enjoyed by the public

1948 10 21

As the Queen left Girton College yesterday evening, following her visit there, many students gathered in the drive made appropriate if unorthodox use of the gowns they now wear as symbols of their recently won rights to be full members of the University. They took off their gowns and waved them in farewell to the Royal lady, who in the morning had symbolised those new rights as she received in the Senate House the first degree to be conferred upon a woman in University history

1950

1950 12 05

Cambridge, along with practically every other town and village, presented a traditional Christmas-card picture yesterday with freshly fallen snow decorating the trees and hedges. The roads, however, were not quite so picturesque and once the snow had hardened on them they became very treacherous. Melbourn hill was completely blocked by three lorries across the road. Madingley Hill was another treacherous point, with cars unable to climb it and there were long queues also in the Girton road because they could not get a sufficient hold on a rising road.

1950 12 18

“I think every road leading on to Huntingdon Road should have a ‘Halt’ sign”, Coun A.T. Shelley told the Road Safety Committee. “I don’t think there is one corner on Huntingdon Road between Fenstanton and Girton where there has not been an accident. It is the fastest road in the whole of East Anglia”, he declared.

1951 04 14

A proposal to establish a police out-station in Girton clashes with the interests of a market gardening partnership and there has been an appeal against the County Council’s application. The Clerk said the intention was to establish a police house with garage and office accommodation. A site 70 feet wide by 150 feet deep was the minimum requirement, governed by the disposal of sewage. There was no satisfactory public sewer in Cambridgeshire. The Chief Constable spoke of the extreme difficulty of

getting recruits because of lack of accommodation. The constable now at Girton lived in a council house.

1951 06 11

The Cambridgeshire of the future will have a number of new roads, fire & police stations, sewerage schemes, old peoples' homes, a new children's home and a mental deficiency colony. Planners say villages recommended for enlargement include Milton, Fulbourn, Shelford, Barton and Coton where the population will increase from 400 to 1,840. Road improvements recommended include a bypass to the east of Girton relinking the road interrupted by the RAF station but Cambridge bypasses are not shown as surveys show there is no immediate need for them.

1951 07 09

Alderman Mrs C.D. Rackham opened the first instalment of the new Glebe school, Girton. When complete it will take 300 children from five to 11, as well as a group of "under-fives". "We aim to have a nursery class in all our new junior schools where mothers will be able to leave their younger children until they reach the age of five", she said; "we believe this facility an essential feature of our new schools".

1951 09 13

Eighty-two acres of land bordering Thornton Road, at present comprising part of the parish of Impington, may soon become annexed to Girton. During the war by a "gentleman's agreement" the land had been administered by Girton Parish Council in connection with Civil Defence administration and organisation. Local residents had frequently attended Girton Parish Council meetings but had been banned from voting. The transfer of the land would change that. Impington Parish Council has no objections.

1942 06 02

There are gaps in Girton to be filled as a result of sporadic war-time development in the village. Mr J.J. Crown said in 1945 that his firm had purchased land in Cambridge Road to build 90 houses. It was not to be ribbon development – they propose to develop the back land. Building land was very scarce and he had received inquiries practically every day from people wishing to build, but who had no land. There was the question of a proposed by-pass on the Cambridge side of Girton to be laid in the next 20 years. Girton would be contained within the line of the by-pass.

1955 12 09

Mrs Glover lived a full life. She was born in 1875 at Willingham and was entered for Girton College but instead went to Berlin and studied German and music. She married Terrot Glover, a Fellow of St John's College and entertained undergraduates to large tea parties, as was usual at that time. She helped start the Tipperary Club for young mothers during the Great War. Later she developed a special tenderness for the old and forgotten. She also worked with the Cambridge Tapestry Company and won high praise from Queen Mary. During the war she was a billeting officer and found room in her own house for many evacuees. 55 12 09b-d

1957 06 07

The Minister has approved plans to reduce the rate of growth of Cambridge but increase the development of nearby villages like Histon, Girton, Milton and Coton. However no deliberate expansion will take place at Teversham, Hauxton, Madingley or Grantchester. Villages can only preserve their identity and character if they remain physically separate from each other so a Green Belt will be introduced. 57 06 07a

1957 11 21

Distinction between Thornton Way, Thornton Road and Thornton Close at Girton are not clear enough – 57 11 21a

1957 11 29

Thornton Estate street names not to be changed at present – 57 11 29d

1958 08 23

James Ison of Girton is a well-known stonemason who has worked on many college buildings including King's college chapel, where he made the pinnacles, and Caius where he assisted William Topper with the carvings on the Gate of Honour and Gate of Virtue. He also made the foundation stone for the new Catholic Church in Milton Road. Now he started his own business and has carved the gargoyles and medallions that are going to help restore the second court of St John's. 58 08 23a

1939 03 23

The Wellbrook Laundry on Girton Road was originally opened for the benefit of Girton College in the days when they sent the clothes by horse and carts, so it was fitting that the Mistress performed the formal opening ceremony of the new dry cleaning department. After wards visitors viewed the laundry which included the sorting of customers' work by tape recording and sheets automatically folded by machine. 59 03 23c

1959 03 25

Girton parishioners discussed Cambridge council's claim for County Borough status, including the extension of their boundary to Pepys Way. This comprised half the population of the village and the remainder would have to bear the whole cost of the existing village area. They were quite happy as they were and deplored the suggestion to split the village. 59 03 25

1960's The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 06 24

Fred Matthews of Sawston has been singing at the village church for 72 years. At the age of 79 his strong baritone voice still rings out at many services accompanied in the choir by his own son and grandson. He is a jovial, robust character who is perfectly contented with memories of his active and varied life, including how he was once sent to Girton College to teach the ladies how to play cricket. His bell-ringing activities continue and his greatest pleasure is to take a trip to the seaside whenever there's a spare seat on a coach be it with the WI, Young Wives or Mothers' Union – he does not mind. 60 06 24e

1960 03 04

Throughout the year the CIP carried a series of feature articles relating to Cambridgeshire villages. They include Girton – 60 03 04

1961 03 28

Girton parish church has death-watch beetle and wood rot in its floors and workmen are trying to repair the damage before April. The beetle was first discovered in the north aisle and further inspection revealed that all the floor timbers were riddled as was the floor to the belfry. During the week the whole church is in turmoil as workmen replace the rotten timbers and concrete the floor beneath to prevent damp seeping into them. They have to clear up for special weekday and ordinary Sunday services which are held at little inconvenience to the congregation 61 03 28a

1961 04 14

Ghost hunters will investigate a small house in Staffordshire Gardens although the building is not haunted and is scheduled to be demolished. Tony Cornell of Girton, who travels all over the country investigating haunted houses, believes it is not spirits who throw things or cause the mysterious knockings which have driven people from their homes in fright. The effects may be caused by vibrations coming through the floor and up the walls. He will attach a 'vibration machine' to the wall and place ornaments on the floor and mantelpieces then conduct a scientific experiment to simulate the erratic wanderings of a poltergeist. 61 04 14a

1964 04 13

The Cambridgeshire Deep Freeze Company was formed in 1952 in adapted buildings on Pound Hill, then extended into pre-fabricated cold rooms nearby. Soon however the whole of the Pound Hill area became part of a redevelopment plan and they moved to a new site at Girton during the severe winter of 1962-63. It accommodates bulk quantities of raw materials such as raspberries and blackcurrants for national processors but one cold room is sub-divided into lockers which can be hired to private individuals for the storage of game or garden produce. 64 04 13b & c

1964 04 29

Memories will flood back to Girton man, Vic Watson, when his old team West Ham play in a Wembley Cup Final. The last time they were there was in 1923 and Vic, then 25, was leading the attack as centre-forward. They lost 2-0 to Bolton in a game that became known as the 'White Horse Final'. Vic was with the club for 16 years and won seven England caps. After retirement he became club coach at Cambridge Town for nearly 20 years until they turned professional. Now he will be a guest of the club together with Jimmy Ruffell, Billy Moore and G. Brown. After the match they have been invited to the team's reception at the Hilton Hotel in Park Lane. 64 04 29c

1965 01 29

Girton photo feature – 65 01 29a

1965 05 11

Rethatching cottage Binfield Cottage, Girton by Joe Kursij – 65 05 11d

1969 06 10

Queen Mother attends centenary lunch at Girton College – 69 06 10, 11a

1970

1972 03 01

The Cambridge M.P., Mr David Lane yesterday waived aside professional traffic statistics and asked those at the by-pass inquiry to use their eyes and their common sense. In a statement to the three-week old inquiry Mr Lane gave his whole-hearted support to both the proposed western and northern bypasses and claimed to have the backing of most people in Cambridge. A woman living in Elizabeth Way wrote "On this bend to which the big lorries cruise and then rev up hard out of it it is one frightful nightmare and the fumes are really killing". A man living in Chesterton Road wrote: "Life is now intolerable and the only acceptable answer is an alternative route by-passing the city altogether" In supporting the northern bypass Mr Lane said disturbance to Girton village must be minimised.

1972 03 29

Girton College was warned yesterday that without the Cambridge by-passes the road outside their front gate would be "a hell on earth" within the next 20 years. The County Surveyor said it was estimated that by 1990 the road would have to carry the equivalent of more than 50,000 cars a day - well over twice its present load. It would necessitate the provision of dual three-lane carriageways and this would mean the demolition of many of the properties fronting the road

1972 04 25

Girton bypass, p14

1972 05 19

Faith, Hope and Charity will never be quite the same again if the Government go ahead with their proposed motorway interchange at Girton. Faith, Hope and Charity are the names of three fields on the Cambridge University Farm - and their future is in some doubt because they lie at the exact spot where the city's Northern and Western bypasses are due to meet up with the A604. Although the

university farm has some picturesque names - Youngman's Pasture, Pheasant Meadow and Stickfast - it is an experimental unit rather than a pure agricultural investment

1972 06 13

Girton College now has more rooms for resident students than any other women's college in Oxford or Cambridge, claimed the Mistress, Professor Muriel Bradbrook yesterday. She was speaking at the official opening of Wolfson Court which adds 100 rooms to those available at the main college site. It was financed by an appeal including a £150,000 contribution from the Wolfson Foundation, p15

1972 09 28

We, the teenagers of Girton village, strongly resent the slur that has been cast on us. Admittedly we use the bus shelter as a meeting place, but that is because there is literally nowhere else to go. There are about 20 of us basically decent, normal, healthy teenagers with the boisterousness of youth and it is not physically possible to meet all at once in each other's houses. So the only building which protects us from the weather is the bus shelter. We absolutely deny that it has an offensive smell and is strewn with litter. In fact the bus shelter at Mayfield Road is in a far worse condition and is not used by members of our age group. - letter signed by 23 Girton youngsters

1973 07 10

The scheme to widen the notorious A604 Cambridge to Huntingdon road could be axed as a result of the big cutback in Government road spending announced a few weeks ago. The A604 is one of the few roads in the area with long stretches of three-lane single carriageway and has been described by the Chief Constable as the worst road in East Anglia. It is also one of the busiest with much of the East coast port traffic and there have been improvement plans in the pipeline for several years. Under present proposals the road would be turned into a full six-lane highway between Girton and Godmanchester 73 07 10

1973 07 20

Girton Parish Council is to ask the county council to give urgent consideration to drawing up a village plan in a bid to get effective control over large-scale development. The prime concern is the preservation of the Old Rectory, in the heart of the village, until parishioners can decide whether they wished to retain the 18th century building or not. Already 150 homes have been approved which takes Girton to its 1981 population limit. Now it could mean a further large area of land being released for development

1973 09 19

The environmental effects on the Cambridgeshire countryside and a number of villages in the building of the Cambridge bypasses are given in the Government's go-ahead to the projects. The inspector concludes that at Grantchester environmental intrusion would be mitigated by a properly conceived planting scheme & the effects on the village would not be serious. At Hauxton and Little Shelford the environmental effects, though great, would not be intolerable. The Inspector does not support Girton's claims that the area will be severed in any practical sense by the Cambridge Northern Bypass. The new road would pass in a cutting and noise screening is recommended. At Fenstanton the Inspector thinks that the noise problem is more important than any partial severance of the village by the A604. He recommends noise screening

1973 10 15

An appeal for special heavy-duty breakdown equipment went out after an articulated lorry overturned at Mitcham's Corner, Cambridge - and the wrecked vehicle and its scattered load were still there six hours later. The lorry overturned outside Wallis' garage showroom at 6.40 am. But the major equipment of local garages was already committed to other things and later the army sent some from Waterbeach. The accident caused extensive delays - at one time there was a queue right back to Washpit Lane, Girton, more than a mile from the city boundary on Huntingdon Road

1974 01 07

Many more young people are sleeping rough in and around Cambridge than anyone has estimated. A man who has slept rough for the last 30 years says he knows of about 100 people aged from 17 to 30 sleeping out in woods and fields around Cambridge. But his estimate has been rejected as “exaggeration” by the rector of Girton, who has been helping to tackle the problem

1974 08 17

Two Cambridge honeymoon couples are among the thousands of people hit by the collapse of the Court Line Holiday Group. One couple, due to be married at Girton, paid £190 for their honeymoon on Lake Como in Italy. Another couple who were due to be married this afternoon have had to make last-minute changes to their plans. They were due to fly out from Luton for a holiday in Ibiza for which they paid £133

1974 09 10

Anglian Water Authority have asked Souths Cambs district council to refuse permission for any new development and severely restrict building in a further 19 because of the overloading of the sewage treatment works, Milton, whose drains lead into the Cambridge works has suffered from a development embargo for the last four years. It is now joined by Shelford, Girton, Histon and Fen Ditton where a complete ban on development is requested. At Over, Gamlingay and Bassingbourn permission will only be given to one-building application. All of these sewage works have been badly overloaded for some time but the cuts in public spending have prevented AWA from going ahead with extension schemes

1975 01 18

The question of whether to re-open the road across Oakington airfield is developing into an inter-village row. Villagers at Oakington and Girton say they do not want the road opened to traffic, but a number of people at Longstanton are in favour of the idea. The chairman of their parish council pointed out the new flyover on the A604 would cut out most of the inconvenience and danger to motorists and this may well be completed before any decision on the airfield road is taken.

1975 07 21

News photographer Tony Jedrej took a souvenir picture of his wallet by accident on Friday – then drove away from Girton and never saw it again. Part of his car was included in pictures taken near the Old Crown public house and it was not until later, when he developed the film, that he saw he had left his wallet on the boot. Mr Jedrej believes the wallet, containing £1, fell off when he drove away from Girton, though his long search of the area afterwards was fruitless

1977 01 28

Girton golf club, p26

1977 02 10

Planners took a long hard look around Cambridge to see where development could best be accommodated. They soon dismissed Histon or Girton because they have relatively limited potential for longer-term growth. At Milton there is considerable opportunity for expansion within the new road framework. Both Bar Hill and Waterbeach possess characteristics suitable for growth, but Cottenham is less accessible to Cambridge. Growth of up to 4,000 might be contemplated in the Teversham-Fulbourn area and the same at Bottisham. To the south it would be possible to develop the Clay Farm area of Trumpington and the Shelfords but Sawston seems to have the greatest development potential

1979 01 20

Girton price rises, p7

1979 03 14

The 600-plus parking meters in the centre of Cambridge may be scrapped as one of the options for helping to sort out traffic chaos. But if they continue the city council is backing a 67 per cent increase in all meter charges because they are facing a £12,000 loss due to increased pay for the traffic

wardens. Councillors are also considering residents' parking schemes to meet mounting demand for this facility. They may also provide the city's first cycle lane along the Huntingdon Road from Girton College to Murkett's Corner.

1979 03 15

Girton could become the place for an experiment in rubbish collection – the first of its kind in the country. The idea for a trial run of a new system comes from a German firm with plans to open up the British market. So far only South Cambs District Council has shown any interest in the service which means plastic bins on wheels for householders and special lorries. Meanwhile they are to order three million plastic rubbish sacks after hearing that the cost may double by next year

1979 05 19

Forty per cent of Cambridge students are potential psychiatric cases, according to a report published by the Students' Union. There are a large number of reasons but whether Cambridge attracts people with a predisposition to mental illness or creates that illness once they arrive, the university has a responsibility to its students. The women in men's colleges are far more stressed than their counterparts in single-sex colleges and the male students about to be introduced into Girton, the oldest women's college, could end up suffering a corresponding weight of stress. The report is bound to spark off controversy among dons.

1980

1980 01 03

Girton College has one of the country's most unusual orchards. It boasts about 153 trees representing 83 varieties of rustic English apples. The oldest are some Blenheim Orange apples which date back 90 years. They have been the pride and joy of Bill Stringer who is retiring after 32 years on the college staff. But the survival of the orchard could depend on the continuing interest of his successor. Already picking has become a problem with the loss of casual labour and there is no desire to use the apples for college meals as instant cooking phases out demand for apple dumpling or charlottes. In addition the college has sold land for the Cambridge Northern by-pass which will put pressure on the remainder as the student intake grows.

1980 01 11

Reports of a UFO which held Harston villagers spellbound have been received from other parts of the world. A researcher who investigated the phenomenon says they appear to be genuine descriptions of an unknown technology. Other reports have been received locally. Desmond January, a Cambridge estate agent, said he watched a line of three white lights which he thought at first were helicopters, but there was no noise and one shot away at right angles up into the sky. Another resident of Hauxton reported something similar that evening while on New Year's Day a lady described seeing a dark cylindrical object pass over her home in Hills Road, Cambridge. The following day two teenagers at Girton told of a light 'burning like magnesium ribbon'

1980 02 27

Senior dons at Girton are pursuing an astonishing plan to link their college with Cambridge by railway. They are proposing a mono-rail link which would run mainly at ground level on university and college-owned land to the Sidgwick Avenue arts site and University Library. The main difficulties are the high cost of the project, which would need to cross the Huntingdon and Madingley Roads and the delicate negotiations with other colleges. The college's undergraduates have to cycle two miles in all weathers to attend lectures and many have been injured in road accidents. But two recent changes may ensure it is never built: the opening of the Western By-pass has reduced the amount of traffic and there will soon be a cycle lane. 80 02 27

1980 03 13

More details have been released of the amazing project to run a mono-rail between Girton College and Cambridge. The Swiss system employs a steel rail carried on concrete pillars about 20 feet above

the ground. Electrically-powered trains carrying 100 people in two 50-seater cars would run five journeys each way at rush hour at a speed of 30 mph. It would do the journey in five minutes. The train would not be obtrusive and would make less noise than a motorcar. The scheme would cost about £500,000 and need a private Act of Parliament. 80 03 13

1980 06 06

Girton College's imaginative plan to build a two-mile aerial roadway into Cambridge has been shelved. A driverless 100-seater train would have run 20 feet above ground taking students from the college to Grange Road. But they have had difficulty crossing land owned by other colleges and raising the money and there has been an improvement in traffic conditions since the opening of the Western by-pass 80 06 06a

1980 06 26

Four people were taken to hospital after a car careered across a corner of Cambridge Market Square. It ploughed across the Barclays Bank edge of the market, striking a flower stall, scattering fruit and vegetables and hitting two shoppers before ending up four feet from the railings of Gt St Mary's church. A Girton lady working on the flower stall said: "I just saw the car out of the corner of my eye and ran for it. The stall just folded up with its legs in the air" 80 06 26

1980 06 27

According to an undergraduate there were more men living in Girton college before it officially went co-residential than there are now. A number of women have not exactly welcomed the admission of men with open arms. One scientist referred to "the horrible increase in the number of couples holding hands in the dinner queue". She felt the college had lost its character. "I don't see why anybody would bother to apply here. There is nothing really to attract people", she said. 80 06 27a

1980 07 19

Girton bus, p6

1982 05 06

The Travellers Rest, the 100th Beefeater Steak House, has opened at Girton. Weathered bricks and dark wood have come from an old mill in Lancashire to give the former Whitbread pub a warmth and intimacy. Hundreds of plants with an unusual water feature add both colour and life but the over-riding ingredient for success is value for money with no extra costs hidden within the menu. 82 05 06

1982 12 16

A gentle coffee-coloured steer made it a happy day for Dick Underwood of Godmanchester at the Cambridge Christmas livestock show at the Cattle Market. The pig championship went to Mr F. Ketteridge of Ashdon, with the reserve title going to Littleton House School, Girton. In the sheep section T. Wakefield of Caxton beat the Boxworth Farming Company for the title. 82 12 16

1986 06 04

Wilfreda Leakey was the original secretary of the Girton and Oakington Child Welfare Centre established in 1936. The warm, friendly atmosphere was a focus for village life where mothers could get expert help on child care from the visiting doctors and nurses. During the war it ensured children received supplies of food and vitamins and when toothbrushes were impossible to find they obtained a consignment that they sold for threepence each. A library lending books on child care to mothers and reading material for the youngsters started in the 1940s and continues to this day. Now she has written its history. 86 06 04a

1986 08 11

Patrick Woods' first task when appointed sub-postmaster at Girton 18 years ago was to construct the building itself. For eight weeks 'Postman Pat' had to make do in a little shed, taking everything back to his home in Mildenhall each evening. But business blossomed and the post office and stores in Dodford Lane have become a familiar sight in the village which for a while feared it might lose its

post office for ever. Now Mr Woods and his wife are calling it a day. "It's no longer a piggy-bank business. It's very streamlined and we have to spend half the evening doing paperwork", he said 86 08 11a

1986 11 26

Girton Golf Club celebrated its 50th anniversary. It has come a long way since the days when a special rule had to be introduced to cope with the sheep grazing on the greens. It was founded in 1936 by Scottish professional Allan Gow as a privately run organisation. Membership was three guineas for gentlemen and a round of the nine-hole course cost one shilling and sixpence. The course flooded several times a year and members squelched across water-logged fairways for most of the winter. In summer they had to negotiate huge cracks when the ground dried out. 86 11 26c

1987 03 19

European Scouts, distinguished on parade by a traditional uniform of wide-brimmed hats and shorts, are making their mark in the Cambridge area. Locally they were born amid controversy three years ago when a Girton group, then belonging to the mainstream Scout Association, switched to the Federation of European Scouting. Together with groups in Waterbeach and Chesterton, bringing numbers to 140, they now account for 10% of European Scouts in England. They stick closer to the original Baden Powell principles – concentration on skills that can't be classroom learned. 87 03 19

1987 08 10

The search for somewhere to live is becoming increasingly desperate. Yet more than 400 council homes in the region are standing empty. In Cambridge – where the council housing list tops 4,000 – one house in Fen Road has been empty for a year, another in Long Reach Road for nine months and a property in Oak Tree Avenue for 20. At Girton four police houses have been empty for almost two years. Officials say some need repair, campaigners claim it is down to inefficiency. 87 08 10b & c

1987 08 14

The 'Beautiful Cambridge' competition is aimed to find the most imaginative gardens. Maureen Brown has done wonders with her back garden in Greville Road and Leslie North of Beche Road can be proud of his landscaping talents. But it was Mary Gosal's garden in Girton Road which delighted the judges. Three years ago it was just a rubbish tip; weeds were waist high and the ground uneven. Now it is a secluded, fragrant, multi-coloured botanical delight with foxgloves, azaleas and alpinists. 87 08 14b & c

1987 11 16

An old broken-down 1930s Fordson tractor has been painted red, blue and green and given a new lease of life as a toy for primary schoolchildren at Girton Glebe School. – 87 11 16

1988 01 26

Joice Taylor of Girton comes from an academic family. She has organised the Cambridge Lectures for young people which have run each Christmas at the University Engineering Department from 1963. Under the chairman, Dr Ronald Gray, the lectures by experts in their field cover topics such as spiders, snakes and scorpions, how the weather is forecast, a talk by Mary Archer about solar energy [and even some by a young Mike Petty]. 88 01 26a